

News Release



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State Indian Museum Celebrates Native American Heritage Month with Series of Special Events & Activities in November

SACRAMENTO, Calif. -- In honor of national Native American Heritage Month, the State Indian Museum is offering a series of special events and activities each weekend that celebrate and share the lasting heritage, traditions and contributions of Native Americans. In fact, the State Indian Museum will offer notable Basket Weaving Demonstrations, a compelling Native Literature Showcase, hands-on "Continuing Culture" Skills Workshops, a Native Film Festival and an always-popular Indian Arts & Crafts Holiday Fair. All Native American Heritage Month activities happening in November at the State Indian Museum are provided free with regular Museum admission.

California Indian Basket Weaving Demonstrations -- Saturday, November 1, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Native weavers will demonstrate how to use a variety of materials and techniques, and also share stories in a day long showcase of basketry art. This is a rare opportunity to observe and learn from the masters; special guest weavers include the following: Dixie Rogers, *Karuk*; Susan Campbell, *Maidu*; Kathy Wallace, *Yurok/Karuk*; and Jennifer Bates, *Northern Miwuk*.

Native Literature Showcase - Meet the Authors! -- Saturday, November 8, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Some of America's Native literary greats will be special guests at the Museum to participate in mini-lectures and book signings that are offered every half hour from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The special guest authors include the following: Thomas Blackburn, *An Artist's Portfolio*; Paul Gelles, *Chumash Renaissance*; Kathleen Rose Smith, *Enough for All*; Richard Hanks, *This War is for a Whole Life*; Lisbeth Haas, *Pablo Tac-Indigenous Scholar*; John Salter, *Medicine Trails*; and Glen Farris, *Treasures from Native California*. Susan Hanks, Tribal & Rural Programs consultant for the California State Library, will provide introductions.

"Continuing Culture" Skills Workshops -- Saturday, November 15, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The State Indian Museum is proud to present a full day of adult-level Native American traditional skills learning along with fun activities for children. Led by skilled artisans, adult workshops include the following: Soapstone Carving, Clapstick Making, Tule Doll Making, Indian Beadwork, Pine Nut Bead Making and Cordage Making. Pre-registration is required for the workshops.

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For More, Visit www.parks.ca.gov/CapitalDistrict

Native American Film Festival – Saturday, November 22, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Lights, camera, action! In honor of Native American Heritage Month, the State Indian Museum is proud to present a very special Native American Film Festival! Informative, contemporary – and sometimes controversial – Native films will be shown throughout the day. The films explore topics of importance to Native people throughout American and include these titles: *How to Trace Your Native American Heritage*, *Windwalker*, *The Alkali Lake Story*, *Reel Injun*, and *Ishi-The Last Yahi*.

Indian Arts & Crafts Holiday Fair -- Friday & Saturday, November 28 & 29, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Guests will enjoy shopping for unique, hand-crafted items such as jewelry, basketry, pottery, hand-painted gourds, dolls, holiday ornaments and much more. This is the perfect chance to meet and support talented native artisans from all over California while also learning more about Native American culture.

While all special activities are free, regular Museum admission applies (\$3 for adults; \$2 for youths ages 6 to 17 and free for kids five and under). For more information about these events and activities or the State Indian Museum in general, call 916-324-8112 or visit www.parks.ca.gov/indianmuseum.

About the State Indian Museum

The State Indian Museum is operated by California State Parks and supported by the California Indian Heritage Foundation. The Museum is open daily, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (except Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day) for self-guided tours and school group visits. The museum is located in midtown Sacramento at 2618 K Street. Current exhibits include traditional basketry, beadwork, ceremonial regalia and hunting & fishing items associated with many of the tribes of California, as well as contemporary artwork. For more information, please call (916) 324-0971 or visit www.parks.ca.gov/indianmuseum.

About Native American Heritage Month

What started at the turn of the century as an effort to gain a day of recognition for the significant contributions the first Americans made to the establishment and growth of the U.S., has resulted in a whole month being designated for that purpose. In 1990 President George H. W. Bush approved a joint resolution designating November 1990 "National American Indian Heritage Month." Similar proclamations, under variants on the name (including "Native American Heritage Month" and "National American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month") have been issued each year since 1994. For more information, visit <http://nativeamericanheritagemonth.gov>

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